

From "Homes on the Montclair."

Bloomfield is a good old-fashioned New Jersey town, the history of which is identified with the history of the State, and which, though now feeling the inevitable impulse of modern improvement, yet contains many quaint and interesting landmarks and relics of the olden time. The substantial stone church, distinctly visible to the southwest of the depot, was erected in 1796, and in other more remote portions of the village may be seen by the lover of antiquities many curious old dwellings, tellingly illustrating the history of a century ago. Bloomfield was originally settled by a part of the colony of New Englanders, which founded Newark. During the Revolution, its people were subject to frequent depredations by bands of marauders and freebooters from the British posts, and especially from the garrison at Bergen Heights, opposite to New York. Some noble acts of daring are narrated in illustration of the patriotic spirit which animated the people of Bloomfield to repel these invasions.

Of late years Bloomfield has enjoyed an annually increasing popularity as a place of residence for New Yorkers, especially during the summer season. But now, with its extended railway facilities, with horse communication with Newark, and with frequent trains to and from the Metropolis passing through the upper and lower portions of the town, it assumes an attractiveness as a place where people doing business in New York may conveniently reside all the year around. Its population is about eight thousand, and its manufacturing industries are numerous and productive; its streets and avenues are wide, straight, shaded and well kept; its sidewalks are generally planted or flagged; its public square, or "military common," as it was once called, forms an attractive place for recreation and strolls, and its public buildings are situated upon a scale of liberality most creditable to its people. There are here seven churches, (three Presbyterian, one Episcopal, one Roman Catholic, one Baptist and one Methodist) a German Theological Seminary, a well conducted paper, "The Bloomfield Record," published by Mr. S. M. Hall, in a Free Reading Room, several public Halls, Masonic, Odd Fellows and O. U. A. M. Lodges, three Public Schools, (one high school and two primaries), one or two Select Schools, and for the accommodation of the transient visitor an excellent Hotel, (Archdeacon's) and florist's green houses.

The handsome brick School House, standing near the old Presbyterian Church, previously mentioned, was erected at a cost of thirty thousand dollars, and is a model of architectural beauty.

During the present summer it is expected that gas will be introduced into the village, thus offering another inducement to those contemplating removal hither. There are many valuable and eligible building sites within easy distance of the depot at this point, and the adjacent country abounds in lovely drives and rambles. The sites at which lots can be purchased, vary of course according to the location, but it may however be stated that good lots can be had at from \$700 to \$1000, and villa sites at \$2,000 and \$2,500 per acre. Definite information regarding particular localities can be obtained by addressing Mr. Horace Pierson.

Leaving the Bloomfield depot, we pass in full view of the old church and the new school house, in which are so plainly contrasted the ancient and the modern, cross by a high embankment and bridges the turnpike road, connecting the upper and lower extremities of the village, and leading thence to the country beyond; and then by an ascending grade the ridge rises in a looking Bloomfield from the West. On the left, the eye rests in passing upon a beautifully laid out cemetery, its avenues bordered with dense well trimmed hedges, and shaded by a wealth of evergreens. From this point, too, one looking back gains a pleasing view of the village which lies just left. Upon this ridge is located the depot called Chestnut Hill, which is in reality another depot for the accommodation of that portion of the people of Bloomfield who have already availed themselves of the advantages of the immediate vicinity as a place of residence. The ridge is admirably adapted for villas where commanding views and picturesque surroundings are required to perfect the ideal of landscape gardening.

Montclair is a thriving and beautiful town which gives our railway its name. And the arriving traveler, viewing for the first time the stately churches and the substantial brick buildings, which adorn the landscape, or glancing further off at the numerous clusters of elegant private residences which grace its outer limits, at once perceives that he has reached a place of no ordinary enterprise and attractiveness. If he continues his observations still further, and, alighting from the train, devote an hour or two to a stroll through the town, he will be more than ever convinced that his first impressions were correct. He will find good side-walks upon every street; stores at which can be purchased all the necessities of daily life at New York prices; churches representing the Episcopal, Congregational, Presbyterian, Methodist, Unitarian and Roman Catholic, one of them, the Congregational Church, having been recently completed at a cost of \$75,000; a graded Public School (including a High School) in which youths are fitted for college or business, employing eight teachers, with an average attendance of nearly four hundred pupils, and occupying a brick school house which cost \$25,000; a Young Ladies' Seminary for boarding and day scholars, and a Kindergarten; a free library, and Reading Room conducted under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian Association; a fine Public Hall, available for lectures, concerts and theatrical entertainments; and many useful industries, prominent among which may be mentioned the Steam Saw and Planing Mill of Taylor Bros. & Co.

This much the visitor will find that the land of man has done to render Montclair a place of growing attractiveness and importance. But, Nature, he will find, has done fully as much, or even more. For, situated on the gently sloping mountain side, which affords both a genial shelter and an admirable drainage, and surrounded by an undulating landscape, in which no swamp land exists to give forth its unwholesome miasmas, Montclair may justly claim, in its natural advantages, an inferiority to no suburban town or village about New York. It is said to be the only place within fifteen miles of that city that is absolutely free from fever and ague, while the wonderful salubrity of the atmosphere completely eradicates the disease from the system of any new comers who may have been previously afflicted with it.

Many people with bronchial or lung diseases, have been restored to health by a residence here. The annual visitations of dysentery or typhoid, common elsewhere, have never prevailed here, and the wonderful health of a century that the people have been able to dispense with the ground

which was appropriated for that purpose by the first settlers of 1660, and heretofore to patronize the more populous cemetery of a neighboring town.

So much for the subject of health. But in picturesque beauty of surroundings, too, Montclair challenges our admiration. Let the visitor who would appreciate this fact, ascend to the summit of Washington Rock, and take his stand in the summer house which crowns its topmost crag. Below him lies spread out the village with its closely built center, and its villa lined avenues, stretching out in all directions. Beyond are Bloomfield and Newark; further still the heights of Bergen, and in the background, standing out clear and distinct the sky, the spires and chimneys of the Metropolis. From this rock the great General whose name it bears, watched our enemies while they occupied New York City and Harbor. Their ships could be seen with the naked eye, and their flag described by the telescope. Turning Westward the observer looks down upon the fertile Verona, beyond which lies the village of Caldwell. Almost directly under his feet, a distance of nearly an hundred feet down in the rock and clay, passes the tunnel, which in its completion is to open between the two valleys, and afford a passage way for our Morris-town Branch, which here diverges from the main line, and the embankment of which may already be seen extending up to the mountain's base.

The early history of Montclair is identical with that of its sister town of Bloomfield, for, prior to 1808, Montclair was a portion of Bloomfield township. But with the infusion of progressive ideas, there came a proposition that the former be set off as a separate township, a proposition which was in the year specified confirmed by Legislative enactment. Since that time the growth and popularity of Montclair as a place of residence for New York business men, have been assured. The population has already increased to 3500, and property which a few years ago sold for merely nominal prices, is now valuable and in frequent demand. Some beautiful avenues, among which may be mentioned, Bloomfield, Mountain, Fullerton and Orange Avenues, Park street and Valley Road are open, and improved, thus rendering available many desirable building sites. Upon such avenues, land can be bought at prices varying from \$500 to \$1,000 per lot (50x100), or from \$2000 to \$4000 per acre.

Double Murder in Maine.

A HORRIBLE AFFAIR.

The store of David Dudley in Mapleton, Me., was recently robbed by a desperate man named James Cullen. On Monday a warrant was issued for his arrest, and Deputy Granville A. Hayden, deputy sheriff of Presque Isle, started for him, taking W. H. Bird and Thomas Hubbard, of Mapleton, to assist him. The burglar was traced to Swanbeck's Shingle Camp, on Chapman plantation, and on Tuesday night his arrest was effected. The Sheriff decided to stop in the camp over night, and all hands went to bed. Near morning Cullen awoke, and obtaining an axe, chopped off the heads of both Hayden and Hubbard. The two other occupants of the tent, Swanbeck and Bird, were awakened by the noise, and were witnesses of the awful deed. They escaped from the tent. Cullen then kindled a fire and burnt the bodies of the murdered men. He then set fire to the camp. Swanbeck and Bird burned the settlement and gave the alarm. Parties of men immediately started out in search of the murderer and a messenger was sent in haste to Presque Isle. The wildest excitement prevailed. On reaching the camp nothing remained to tell of the awful murder, except some heaps of ashes, a few fragments of bones and a bunch of keys. The murderer was traced to his house in Mapleton. His wife denied his presence, but finally admitted that he was hiding in the cellar, where he was found by Constable Hughes and his assistants. He acknowledged his guilt, and said he wished he had also killed Swanbeck and Bird. The officers started with him for Presque Isle. After having proceeded two miles they were met by a large party of men, disguised, who took possession of the prisoner, who still exulted in his guilt, regretting that he had not made a complete job of it. He said he wished he had killed his own wife and child, and then he would be hung willingly. The disguised men placed a rope around his neck, and hung him to a tree and then laid for the purpose. When life was extinct, the body was cut down and placed in a box that had been made to receive the remains of his victims. Cullen is said to have murdered a lawyer in New Brunswick, where he had resided until within the past two years. Hayden offered him the chance to escape if he would leave the country, but he was afraid to return to the provinces and agreed to go with him peaceably in the morning. Hayden was highly esteemed throughout the country where he was well known. He leaves a wife and one child. The voice of the people is that it served the murderer right. Hubbard was an unmarried man.

THE LATE MODOC BATTLE.—On Saturday last (the 26th inst.) General Gillen ordered a reconnaissance to be made of the enemy's position, which was supposed to be to the South of the Lava Beds. For this purpose he detailed sixty men of the Fourth Infantry and Twelfth Infantry. The troops then marched across the beds in the direction of the bluff to the south, where the Modocs were supposed to be entrenched. The reconnaissance was made with due caution and a sharp look out was observed. The troops reached within twenty feet of the bluffs without molestation or discovering any traces of the enemy, when suddenly the Modocs, who lay in ambush among the rocks awaiting their approach, opened a most telling and destructive fire upon the unsuspecting troops. The latter, on finding that they had fallen into a trap, attempted to retreat. A number sprang among the rocks and crept into the crevices for shelter from the galling fire of the Indians. The Modocs, hidden behind the rocks, fired with deadly effect, and had every advantage over the troops, who found themselves opposed to the withering fire of an unseen foe without being able to return it effectively. A portion of the infantry retreated to a hollow spot among the rocks. The Modocs, seeing the movement and in a few moments the troops were surrounded. The Modocs, secreted in the rocks, opened fire and killed and wounded all except three, who managed to escape. No Modocs are reported killed. The ambulance was so completely that the Indians were entirely covered from the return fire of the troops. The latter were completely taken by surprise. During the entire engagement seventeen privates were killed and twenty-three wounded. Lieutenant Howe and Major Thomas, son of Gen. L. Thomas, late Adjutant-General, were killed, and several officers wounded.

Miscellaneous.

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Black Dressing Pants, \$6.

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Large Assortment of

Fine Shirts for Men and Youth.

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In different styles from 25 cents per yard up. Large

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Full line of Flannels, Cloths for Men and Boys' wear.

Also Cloakings at popular prices. Mullins, Calicoes, and

Other Domestic, related at Wholesale Prices. White

Goods, such as Swiss, Victoria Lawns, always lower than

anywhere else. Marcelline Quilts from Auction at

Special Prices. Also, White and Checked Matings at 25

cents a yard. Table Linens at 25 cents a yard. Towels,

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Would call attention to his large assortment of Ham-

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FINE SHOES,

"six widths to the size" which are acknowledged by

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THE BEST IN THE MARKET.

Also, a full line of S. DUNBAR & CO. Philadelphia fine

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GRAIN, FEED, Etc.

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will be sold low and promptly delivered in any part of

the town.

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